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Agawam's Hometown Newspaper

January 8, 1981

January Snow



School Department 1980... Headaches & Public Attention

By Joanne Brown

In a year begun when the six incumbent members along with newcomer Rosemary Sandlin assumed the posts they had won in the November, 1979, election, the Agawam School Committee once again experienced a year of high points and disappointments in 1980.

One of the most bitter disappointments of 1980 to board members was the eventual demise of the Westover Occupational Resource Collaborative. Superintendent of Schools Louis Hebert and committee members had all worked diligently to organize the vocational education collaborative as well as to convince an often-skeptical Town Council to bond the \$582,000 needed as Agawam's share in the venture.

Having undergone much criticism from various council members, WORC finally passed the three readings needed for the bond issue to be approved only to fall victim to circumstances as neighboring communities pulled out, and the collaborative was dissolved.

Another issue invoking sharp conflict between the two town governing boards centered on the \$7.6 million school department budget submitted to the Town Council. This budget was returned to the School Board with an almost unprecedented directive to make additional cuts.

Following the slashing of \$68,000 more, the budget was finally approved. Included in this budget was a 6-6.5% hike in top administrators' salaries which sparked considerable controversy. The pay increase granted to Superintendent Hebert came within only a few weeks of a \$3,000 merit raise and brought his salary over \$40,000, making him the highest paid administrator in the town's history. Much anger was verbalized by town councilors who felt they had not been totally informed of the committee's intentions at budget hearings.

Approval of these matters was granted in executive sessions held by the committee, sessions which were directly responsible for a charge of alleged violations of the state's Open Meeting Law being brought to the district attorney by local resident Daniel Lacienski. The eventual results released on this investigation

found no evidence of misconduct on the part of board members.

Other Board Policies Triggered Criticism

Among other policies of the board to trigger criticism last year were its stringent requirements for citizen speak time during meetings and its practice of not routinely hiring Agawam people for vacant positions within the school system.

This latter policy instigated a picketing session by dissident residents outside of one of the board's meetings last summer. Requests from town residents for a relaxation of the requirements for the board's present speak time were rejected.

Another controversial policy instituted last year was the granting of smoking privileges on school property to Agawam High School students who obtained parental permission. Monthly reviews of this policy were also arranged.

New Policies Acclaimed

One policy to receive acclaim was the implementation of minimum basic standards for the school system in compliance with state regulations effective September, 1980. A committee of educators, parents, and businessmen headed by Assistant Superintendent of Schools James Bruno determined minimum levels of achievement through grade 8 which would be acceptable within the Agawam School System.

The entrance age for children attending Agawam kindergartens was moved back to age 5 by October 1st and to age 6 by October 1st for those entering grade 1. Proponents of this policy explained that children's readiness for school should be heightened by such a plan.

After several meetings at which residents of town addressed members of the School Committee, the board voted unanimously to support the bypass of Route 57. The safety hazards existing because the present route runs by three heavily populated town schools were cited as the board's principal reason for supporting the bypass.

Agawam High once again served as host school to foreign exchange students studying here under the



School Board Chairwoman Jessie Fuller

aegis of the American Field Service. Marcela Arana from Bolivia and Grant Ward from Australia were among over 400 seniors who graduated in June, 1980. Laura Baldoni from Argentina and Mark Turnbull from South Africa are members of the current senior class.

Representatives from Agawam High took part in television Channel 22's quiz show *As Schools Match Wits* and won through semi-final competition.

The cultural education collaborative's Wide Horizons program continued to bring regional cultural institutions together with Agawam students. All six elementary schools worked closely in conjunction with either the Springfield Science Museum, the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts, or Storowton Village Museum.

Proposition 2½ Presents Difficulties

The year 1980 closed with difficult times once again on the horizon. The tax-cutting proposal Proposition 2½ passed in last November's election mandates severe cutbacks not only for the fiscal '81-'82 budget, but also immediate cuts within the current budget.

School Committee members had already begun eliminating expenses where possible prior to the Christmas break from school. Extensive plans to reorganize next year's budget included the creation of a sub-committee charged with working closely with administrators on every aspect of the upcoming budget. Committee members expressed an openness for community input on critical areas of this budget.

Board members are hoping to eliminate much of the tension and anxiety which has arisen since the passage of Proposition 2½ through careful consideration and implementation of the next fiscal budget.

Kunasek Earns Sales Achievement Award

David G. Kunasek of Feeding Hills has fully qualified for the 1980 President's Conference, which is the highest sales achievement of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and recognizes exceptional accomplishments as an insurance professional. The conference will be held in April in New Orleans.

This is the fifth out of the last seven years that Kunasek has achieved the number one sales agent status in the Providence region. In achieving this status, he has produced an all-time high level of production with a multimillion dollar year.



He is ranked in the top one hundred sales representatives in number of applications obtained in a sales force of over 23,000 salespeople which places him in the top 2% of insurance salespeople in the entire insurance industry.

Kunasek lives with his wife Louise and their three children at 64 Day Street.

WESTFIELD SAVINGS BANK'S NOW Accounts

Give you earning power,
Bill-paying convenience

A NOW Account is a savings account
against which you may write checks...
with the balance earning 5¼ percent
interest!

Westfield
Savings
Bank

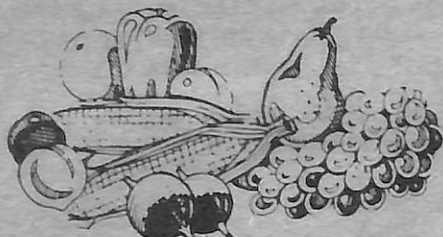
141 ELM STREET
WESTFIELD

DRIVE-IN OFFICE
26 ARNOLD STREET
WESTFIELD

206 PARK STREET
WEST SPRINGFIELD

655 MAIN STREET
AGAWAM

PICK UP YOUR VALUE PACKED CIRCULAR IN THE STORE. WHILE SUPPLY LASTS!


**WALDBAUM'S
Food Mart**


Come pick your own fresh fruits and vegetables from the largest display of bulk produce in town. Take just what you need... a little or a lot!

**FRESH CALIFORNIA
BROCCOLI**
LARGE BUNCH **59¢**

**California Sweet
NAVEL
ORANGES**
LARGE SIZE
7 FOR \$1.

**Fancy Florida
Juicy
TEMPLE
ORANGES**
LARGE 80 SIZE
7 FOR \$1.

**U.S. FANCY
Macintosh
APPLES**
2 1/4" MINIMUM
3 LB. BAG **89¢**

**LONG
GREEN CUCUMBERS** 4 FOR **\$1.**
**U.S. FANCY RED - 2 1/4" MINIMUM
DELICIOUS APPLES** 3 LB. BAG **99¢**

**FRESH WON TON
& EGG ROLL WRAPPERS** 1 LB. PKG **79¢**

**PRODUCE ITEM OF THE WEEK
Something New at Food Mart!**

**GROW YOUR OWN
MUSHROOM KIT**
CAN PRODUCE AS
MUCH AS 8 LBS.
FRESH MUSHROOMS **\$7.99**

Magnificent mushrooms that are simple to grow. Now the amateur can successfully grow this delicate and nutritious vegetable in his own home. Easy to grow instructions with every kit.

**Food Mart starts off the New Year
with big food values through-out
the entire store! Come see!**

**PERDUE or LIPMAN WHOLE
FRYING CHICKENS**

**59¢
LB.**

**PERDUE OR LIPMAN
FRYING CHICKEN CUT UP** **65¢
LB.**

**PERDUE OR LIPMAN
BOX O' CHICKEN** **59¢
LB.**

**PERDUE OR LIPMAN
WHOLE ROASTERS** 3 TO 3 1/2 LBS. **69¢
LB.**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF LOIN

**WHOLE
SHELLS
of BEEF**

UNTRIMMED - BONE IN
**\$1.99
LB.**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE HALF PIECES
SHELLS OF BEEF BONE IN
UNTRIMMED **\$2.09
LB.**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE

**LONDON
BROIL**

BONELESS SHOULDER
**\$1.99
LB.**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF LOIN BONE IN
SHELL STEAKS WITH 2" TAIL **\$3.19
LB.**

**PREMIUM
VEAL SALE**

**SHOULDER
VEAL CHOPS**
**\$2.49
LB.**

**BREAST
OF VEAL**
**\$1.39
LB.**

**RIB VEAL
CHOPS**
**\$2.89
LB.**

**BONELESS
STEW VEAL**
**\$2.79
LB.**

TOP FROST 16 OZ. PKG.
SOLE FILLET **\$2.29**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF LOIN - BONE IN TAILLESS
SHELL STEAK OR CLUB ROAST **\$3.69
LB.**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE BONELESS BEEF
SHOULDER ROAST **\$1.99
LB.**

U.S.D.A. CHOICE BONELESS BEEF
TOP BLADE STEAK **\$1.99
LB.**

**BEEF
CHUCK SHORT RIBS** **\$1.79
LB.**

**Boneless
FRESH
PORK LOIN**
RIB END PORTION
**\$1.99
LB.**

**\$1.99
LB.**

**FRESH PORK LOIN
BONELESS CUTLESS** **\$1.99
LB.**

**FRESH PORK LOIN
BACK RIBS** **\$1.69
LB.**

**COLONIAL
BEEF FRANKS** 1 LB. PKG **\$1.69**

**COLONIAL SLICED
BOLOGNA** MEAT - SKILLET OR GERMAN 1 LB. PKG **\$1.49**

**SWIFT'S
LAZY MAPLE BACON** 1 LB. PKG **\$1.59**

TOP FROST 16 OZ. PKG.
FISH & CHIPS **\$1.19**

**Colonial
BACON**
SPECIAL CUT or MAPLE
1 LB. PKG **\$1.59**

\$1.59

**COLONIAL GLAZED
VIRGINIA BRAND
BAKED HAM** **\$1.69
1/2 LB.**

**GOURMET
NATURAL SHAPE
Turkey Breast** **\$1.99
1/2 LB.**

LENDERS BAGELS ALL VARIETIES DOZ **\$1.19**

**HEBREW NATIONAL KOSHER
SALAMI OR BOLOGNA** 1/2 LB. **\$1.99**

**WHOLE OR HALF SMOKED
LARGE WHITE FISH** SLICED ON REQUEST **\$2.69
LB.**

**JUDEA KOSHER BEEF
FRANKS or KNOCKWURST** **\$2.69
LB.**

**Prices Effective Sunday, Jan. 4
Thru Saturday, Jan. 10**

**WALDBAUM'S TASTY
NEW YORK STYLE DELI.**

OUR BEST LEAN
**ROAST
BEEF**

**\$1.99
1/2 LB.**

LAND O LAKES WHITE
**AMERICAN
CHEESE**

**\$2.19
LB.**

COLONIAL LEAN
COOKED HAM WATER ADDED 1/2 LB. **\$1.39**

WEAVER'S
CHICKEN ROLL 1/2 LB. **\$1.39**

GEM
POLISH LOAF STORE SLICED **\$1.79
LB.**

OLD FASHIONED
WIDE BOLOGNA **\$1.49
LB.**

NEW - HANSEL & GRETEL
SLICING KIELBASA **\$1.99
LB.**

COLONIAL GLAZED
VIRGINIA BRAND
BAKED HAM **\$1.69
1/2 LB.**

**GOURMET
NATURAL SHAPE
Turkey Breast** **\$1.99
1/2 LB.**

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LB.**

**JUDEA KOSHER BEEF
FRANKS or KNOCKWURST** **\$2.69
LB.**

FROZEN FOODS GALORE!

**TreeSweet
ORANGE
JUICE**
12 OZ. CAN **79¢**

79¢

**THREE VARIETIES - 1 GALLON CONTAINER
TOP FROST ICE MILK** **\$1.09**

**4 ASSORTED VARIETIES
SWANSON ENTREES** 5 TO 8 1/4 OZ. PKGS **69¢**

GREEN GIANT NIBLETS 20 OZ. PKG **79¢**

**GAYLORD
BROCCOLI SPEARS** 8 OZ. PKG **2 FOR 79¢**

**BIRDS EYE
GREEN BEANS** FRENCH STYLE 9 OZ. PKG **2 FOR 99¢**

**Gaylord
Crinkle Cut
POTATOES**
80 OZ. PKG **\$1.39**

\$1.39

FRESH DAIRY FOODS!

**Florida Citrus
ORANGE
JUICE**
64 OZ. CARTON **89¢**

89¢

**ASSORTED FLAVORS
BREYERS YOGURT** 8 OZ. CUP **2 FOR 79¢**

**SALTED
MAZOLA MARGARINE** 1 LB. PKG. QUARTERS **75¢**

**DORMAN
SWISS CHEESE** 6 OZ. PKG **\$1.09**

**GALLON CONTAINER
HOOD'S CHOCO GOOD** **\$1.39**

**7 OZ. CONTAINER
HOOD'S NUFORM WHIP** **69¢**

**Waldbaum's
COTTAGE
CHEESE**
1 LB. CONTAINER **69¢**

69¢

**GREEN GIANT
NIBLETS
CORN**
WHOLE KERNEL
12 OZ. CAN **3 FOR \$1.**

3 FOR \$1.

**SNOW'S
NEW ENGLAND
CLAM
CHOWDER**
15 OUNCE CAN **79¢**

79¢

**Del Monte
CHUNKY
FRUIT**
IN HEAVY SYRUP
PEACHES or PEARS
2 16 OZ. CANS **89¢**

89¢

**PRINCE
Macaroni
& Cheese
DINNER**
4 7 1/4 OZ. PKGS. **99¢**

99¢

**Ocean Spray
Grapefruit
Juice**
48 OZ. BOTTLE **\$1.09**

\$1.09

**HUNT'S
TOMATO
SAUCE**
8 OZ. CAN **6 FOR \$1.**

6 FOR \$1.

TOPCO
Aluminum Foil 25 FOOT ROLL **39¢**

1 2 3 4 ASSORTED
Cycle Dog Food 14 OZ. CAN **3 FOR \$1.**

PERK or REGULAR
Food Club Coffee 1 POUND CAN **\$1.69**

Silver Floss Sauerkraut 27 OZ. CAN **53¢**

FOOD CLUB
Seedless Raisins 15 OUNCE PACKAGE **\$1.19**

Dinty Moore Beef Stew 24 OZ. CAN **\$1.29**

Hormel Bacon Bits 3 OZ. CONTAINER **79¢**

REGULAR OR HOT
Hormel Chili w/Beans 15 OZ. CAN **79¢**

**FOOD CLUB
TOMATO
SOUP**
10 3/4 OZ. CAN **5 FOR \$1.**

5 FOR \$1.

**PREMIUM
SALTINES**
1 LB. PACKAGE **69¢**

69¢

WOOLITE
32 OZ. BOTTLE **\$2.39**

\$2.39

**WHEATIES
CEREAL**
18 OZ. PACKAGE **\$1.19**

\$1.19

**Gold Seal
Snowy Bleach**
26 OZ. PACKAGE **\$1.19**

\$1.19

**SOFT SCRUB
CLEANSER**
26 OZ. CONTAINER **\$1.29**

\$1.29

**Swiss Miss
COCOA**
12 ENVELOPE PACKAGE **\$1.19**

\$1.19

**Betty Crocker
POTATO BUDS**
14 OZ. PACKAGE **79¢**

79¢

WITH THIS COUPON AT FOOD MART GOOD SUN JAN 4 THRU SAT JAN 10 LIMIT ONE PKG ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER

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**AGAWAM
63 Springfield St.**

FOOD MART STORES
PRICES EFFECTIVE IN AGAWAM AND WESTFIELD

**WESTFIELD
East Main St.**

Energy Assistance Program Available

The Department of Weights and Measures is accepting applications for home energy fuel assistance. Applicants must provide proof of income and a copy of their last oil bill, electric bill, or gas bill.

More families qualify this year because the income guidelines have been extended to include greater maximum income levels. Most elderly who are on social security qualify for home heating assistance.

The Department of Weights and Measures/Energy Commission is accepting appointments for applicants who qualify under the income guidelines. They would like all Agawam residents who feel they may qualify to be informed they may call the department

for an appointment to make an application for home energy assistance.

The Department of Social Security has a special form available upon request of persons on Social Security, and it will be mailed to applicants upon telephone request. If you are disabled and cannot make an appointment, call the Department of Weights and Measures and they will make arrangements to assist you.

The Department of Public Welfare also has a similar form for its recipients. Unemployed applicants can have their white cards photocopied by the Division of Employment Security certifying their income.

Self-employed persons who meet the guidelines should call the Department of Weights and Measures for the necessary income certification.

Income guidelines are listed in the charts on this page, and Agawam residents are requested to secure the necessary information and call for an appointment as soon as possible. The funding for this program is expected to be allotted to all applicants before the end of January.

The Agawam Council on Aging at the Senior Center is also processing applications, but only for elderly citizens.

OTHER SMSA

FAMILIES WHO HEAT WITH OIL, KEROSENE, OR LIQUIFIED PROPANE GAS

FAMILY SIZE	125% of Poverty MAXIMUM INCOME LEVEL	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE	Between 125% and 150% of Poverty MAXIMUM INCOME LEVEL	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE	Between 150% of Poverty and Bureau of Labor Lower Living Standards MAXIMUM INCOME LEVEL	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE
1	\$ 4,738	\$750	\$5,685 (State Funds)	\$600	\$6,633 (State Funds)	\$400
2	\$ 6,263	\$750	\$7,600 (Federal Funds)	\$600	\$8,768 (State Funds)	\$400
3	\$ 7,788	\$750	\$9,345	\$600	\$10,430	\$400
4	\$ 9,313	\$750	\$11,175	\$600	\$12,880	\$400
5	\$10,838	\$750	\$13,005	\$600	\$15,200	\$400
6	\$12,363	\$750	\$14,835	\$600	\$17,770	\$400
OVER 6	For each additional person add: \$1,525	\$750	For each additional person add: \$1,830	\$600	For each additional person add: \$2,570	\$400

OTHER SMSA

FAMILIES WHO HEAT WITH GAS, ELECTRICITY, WOOD OR OTHER FUEL

FAMILY SIZE	125% of Poverty MAXIMUM INCOME LEVEL	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE	Between 125% and 150% of Poverty MAXIMUM INCOME LEVEL	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE	Between 150% of Poverty and Bureau of Labor Lower Living Standards MAXIMUM INCOME LEVEL	MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE
1	\$ 4,738	\$600	\$5,685 (State Funds)	\$500	\$6,633 (State Funds)	\$325
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5	\$10,838	\$600	\$13,005	\$500	\$15,200	\$325
6	\$12,363	\$600	\$14,835	\$500	\$17,770	\$325
OVER 6	For each additional person add: \$1,525	\$600	For each additional person add: \$1,830	\$500	For each additional person add: \$2,570	\$325



Newly-elected Precinct 5 Councilor Gallano

In Precinct 5, It's Gallano!

In what was described as a "quiet election," former selectman and Charter Commission chairman Andrew C. Gallano of Main Street defeated Attorney Rene Thomas for the vacated Precinct Five Town Council seat Tuesday.

Gallano defeated Thomas of 417 River Road by a 74 vote margin, 323 to 249.

The resignation of two-term councilor Donald Laduzenski last October created the need for a special election, which brought out 572 of the precinct's 2,500 voters.

The turnout, which was considered good, represented 22 percent of the precinct's eligible voters.

According to Gallano, the major difference between him and Thomas during the low key campaign was the fact that Gallano is a well-known supporter of the council/manager charter while Thomas supports a mayor/council town government.

Thomas said that his support for a mayor had no bearing on his third consecutive run for one of the two precinct seats on the council.

Asked about his political future, Thomas responded, "This is my last run."

Thomas complained that one of Gallano's supporters who endorsed a paid political newspaper ad also was a town warden of the election and that another election warden had a relative who signed a Gallano ad.

Thomas criticized Town Clerk Edward Caba for his selection of the wardens. He said, "Although there was no direct relationship to the outcome, there should be an element of neutrality to an election and it's an ethical judgement more than anything else."

Gallano said his 11-month tenure on the council would attempt to aid the community's positive direction and added that he would oppose councilors who interfered with the administrative branch of town government.



Samantha
READS YOUR STARS

If you were born this week: You are neat and meticulous, giving a great deal of attention to details. Success is important to you and you will work hard to achieve it. You are proud of your possessions and take excellent care of them. Family and home-centered values are a priority. SAMANTHA'S NEW YEAR'S NOTES FOR 1981 ... HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ARIES (3-21/4-19): The coming year should see a major emphasis on relationships, Aries. Look for in-depth developments and strengthening to occur. You'll be looking, also, for different qualities in people than you have in the past.

TAURUS (4-20/5-20): Work-project affairs should prove to be both challenging and a springboard to bigger and better things, Taurus. Service to others will be amply rewarded. You'll be working hard, so playtime will be important, too.

GEMINI (5-21/6-20): Make a resolution, Gem, that you will expand one creative venture to its fullest this year. Hark, I said just one, don't try a dozen, now! Make a special point of showing your love for those closest to you, babe.

MOONCHILD (6-21/7-22): Home and family affairs are highlighted in the coming year, Moonbaby. You may well be remodeling or redecorating. Be supportive of family members. You might also find an exciting new job before the months are out.

LEO (7-23/8-22): Communication is your year's keyword, Leo. You may be increasing your day-to-day contacts with others and you'll want to be even more effective in getting your message across. You may be signing an important document, too.

VIRGO (8-23/9-22): Your resources are a focal point of interest for you this year, Virgo. This includes your talents as well as your holdings. Evaluate, sharpen some skills, and broaden a few bases. Take a stand on values and principles, too.

LIBRA (9-23/10-23): This should be a fine year for personal growth and decisions, Libby. Be prepared for additional responsibility along the way, also. Jupiter in your sign at this time adds a bit of luck and optimism to all you do.

SCORPIO (10-24/11-22): You are always interested in self-examination and understanding, Scorp, especially so this year. Sam says, introspection is like garlic in spaghetti sauce; a little bit is great, but too much is awful! Listen to me, angel!

SAGITTARIUS (11-23/12-21): Friendships and goals are spotlighted, Sag. You're apt to be really analyzing what it is that you do want and making a few changes. New and old friends play a very active role in many of your affairs.

CAPRICORN (12-22/1-19): Career opportunities and challenges may be the foundation for higher positions for a number of years. Much may be demanded of you, Cappy, but it will be no more than you are capable of giving. Onward and upward!

AQUARIUS (1-20/2-19): Learning and studying provide enrichment for your fertile mind, Aquari. Philosophy and religion will likely assume even greater importance to you than they do now. Interests in justice and in writing also grow.

PISCES (2-20/3-20): The old axiom about two heads being better than one is proven again in the coming year. Cooperative efforts and, perhaps, a partnership may well be valuable. Listen to your intuition, Pisces, and watch your budget, too.

(c) 1981 Suburban Features

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786-6245

SALES - SERVICE - RENTALS
Fast Service Featuring

MAGNAVOX

TV - STEREO - RADIO - VIDEO TAPE

Come See
Our Low
PRICES!

Model 4812
uniquely styled
Contemporary 25in.
diagonal TV with
convenient casters



Town & Country Lanes

485 East Main St. Westfield

BOWL ONE STRING & GET ONE STRING FREE!

With This Coupon

Enjoy A Sandwich
And Cocktail In The
KEGLER LOUNGE



Agawam Policeman Completes Course

Sgt. Robert E. Rossi of the Agawam Police Department has completed the three-week Command Training Institute for Law Enforcement Officers' program held at Babson College, Wellesley, Massachusetts.

The institute is co-sponsored by the New England Association of Chiefs of Police and the Babson College School of Continuing Education and funded by a grant from the United States Department of Justice.

The objective of the training program is to provide command officers with the skills needed to exercise effective management practices and procedures in order to gain the most from those under their direction. Command training concentrates on the operational aspects of the command officer's responsibility, seeking to extend existing programs and provide a vehicle for instruction to those who must supervise the daily operations of various departments.

To achieve this goal, the institute offers courses in community relations, decision making, planning, staffing and other management and human relations subjects.



Charles V. Barry, left, Director of the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management at Babson College, Wellesley, Mass., presents certificate of graduation to Sgt. Robert Rossi of the Agawam Police Dept, who was among officers completing a 3-week course.

Drivers Urged To Be Alert For More Winter Driving

With the holidays over, many drivers are inclined to let down and ride out the rest of the winter complacently, Safety Officer Sgt. Alfred Longhi observed today.

That's dangerous thinking, Longhi pointed out, because the worst of winter is probably still ahead, and you may need all the help you can get. For example, the National Safety Council's Committee on Winter Driving Hazards recommends a check of your car's trunk for broken or missing emergency equipment.

BOOSTER CABLES should be checked for broken wires, loose connections at the clips. Replace or securely tape torn plastic insulating handles.

TIRE CHAINS should be checked for broken links and bent fasteners.

EMERGENCY FLARES or reflectors damaged in a previous emergency should be replaced.

FLASHLIGHTS or lanterns should have fresh batteries.

Additional TRACTION AIDS to get you started from impossible spots should include a shovel along with sand or cinders, rock salt or traction mats, and a tow chain or strap.

Inside the car, carry scrapers and a snow brush along with a good spray de-icer and clean rags.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police also joins the National Safety Council's researchers with the following additional winter driving tips:

1) Away from traffic, get the "feel" of the road by accelerating carefully to see if your wheels spin or brake gently to see when they skid. Reduce your speed accordingly.

2) Increase your following distance. Remember, it takes three to nine times as far to stop on snow and ice as on dry pavement.

3) Plan your maneuvers far ahead. Avoid sudden changes in direction or speed.

4) "Pump" your brakes to slow or stop - don't jam them on. An intermittent (completely on-off) pumping action keeps wheels rolling and helps maintain steering control.

5) Use good tires with good tread. Better yet, use snow tires which provide half again as much pulling power in snow as regular highway tires.

6) Keep your windshield and windows clear at all times. Replace streaking wiper blades. Be sure your windshield washer solution contains adequate antifreeze.

7) Remember those tire chains in your trunk and use them for severe snow and ice conditions. Reinforced chains provide four to seven times as much traction on snow or ice as regular tires.

Sgt. Longhi concluded with this comment: "Following these tips will prove you still have good judgment about the winter driving problems and conditions ahead. There's no better way to keep your name off a police accident report than to use that good judgment - no matter what winter throws at us now."

Holiday Vandalism To Decorations Depresses DePalo

By Stephen Gazillo

"I felt so bad I was going to quit," Joseph DePalo said, telling of his reaction to the vandalism that occurred on his Meadow Street property some time during Christmas night.

DePalo is known throughout Agawam for the magnificent display of Christmas decorations that adorn his front lawn and house during the holiday season. This year, vandals destroyed two of the lighted choir boys, smashed the heads of the reindeer, and recklessly turned over the rest of the statues that have earned six prizes for the DePalo's in the almost thirty years that they have been in Agawam.

"It's so sickening," DePalo said. "I couldn't believe my eyes when I went out to get the morning paper and saw this destruction. My first reaction was to bring everything in."

He continued, "The police say they do not know as of this time who is responsible for the damage. It was the only reported case of vandalism of Christmas decorations in Agawam this past holiday."

DePalo said he is happy that the greater part of his manger scene is intact, although the vandals did smash in the faces of the three wise men and tore up the cloth that hangs as a scenic background to the twenty-year-old nativity set.

He said that this is the first time in 29 years that anything like this has happened. "I can't replace these items," he said. "You just can't buy them anymore."

This year, DePalo received a letter from students at Phelps School saying how much they like and appreciate the beautiful decorations.

"I've put up these decorations for people young and old," he said. "I've had busloads of senior citizens come by to see the display, and I'm always happy to give lollipops to the young kids. When this happened, I was so mad I wanted to quit. I suppose I'll mellow by next year. I'm sure I'll do it again."

January Named Eye Health Month

For the second year in what is becoming an annual event, Governor Edward King proclaimed January, 1981, as Eye Health Month throughout Massachusetts.

The proclamation states the purpose as increasing the understanding and knowledge of the general citizenry about the eyes, eye problems, eye health, eye injuries (whether received in sports or automobile accidents) as well as diseases caused by diabetes, hypertension, trauma or other maladies.

Acknowledging that better understanding and proper precautions might eliminate many eye accidents and problems, the proclamation urges all citizens to avail themselves of the information now available to them to understand better the importance of eye care and eye health, the protection of one of our most precious gifts, our vision.

Eye Health Month is a jointly sponsored event by numerous organizations and state agencies and was initiated and developed by the Massachusetts Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons.

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400	10.35	19.10	11.55	23.10	15.85	31.70	13.10	26.20	18.75	37.50
500	12.25	21.80	13.45	26.90	19.10	38.20	15.75	31.50	22.45	44.90
600	14.10	24.50	15.20	29.40	22.35	44.70	18.00	36.00	25.90	51.80
700	15.35	27.75	16.95	33.90	25.60	51.20	19.55	39.10	29.45	58.90
800	16.75	29.95	18.70	37.40	28.85	57.70	21.95	43.90	33.05	66.10
900	18.10	32.65	20.45	40.90	32.10	64.20	24.05	48.10	36.45	73.90
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"The Town Printer"

SOCIAL



Nancy Sardella

YWCA Sponsors Trip To Coachlight Theatre

A bus trip to the Coachlight Dinner Theatre in Windsor, Connecticut, is being sponsored by the Springfield YWCA on Wednesday, January 21 to see the matinee performance of the musical *Anything Goes*.

The bus will leave from the Harrison Avenue side of the Civic Center Garage at 11:45 a.m. Parking is available.

Reservations are required through the Springfield YWCA, 135 State Street. Phone: 732-3121. YW members: \$21; non-members (including membership privileges), \$33.

Nancy Sardella Engaged To Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sardella of Feeding Hills are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Nancy Jeanne, to Robert Dennis "Ted" Dacey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Dacey II of Waltham, Massachusetts.

Miss Sardella, a graduate of Agawam High School, is a regional sales representative for Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation and has been employed with the Springfield branch office for nearly four years. Her territorial responsibilities include Western and Central Massachusetts as well as Rhode Island.

She is a member of the Women's Division of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce and is continuing her education at American International College working towards a degree in business administration.

Mr. Dacey is also employed by Lawyers Title as branch manager of the Burlington, Vermont office. He is a graduate of St. John's Preparatory in Danvers, Massachusetts, and of Dayton University, Dayton, Ohio with a BA degree in political science.

The couple plans a June 6, 1981 wedding and a honeymoon in Europe. They will reside in Burlington, Vermont.

Shaw-Bassett Engagement Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Shaw of 14 Northern Avenue, Northampton, announce the engagement of their daughter Beverly to Thomas Bassett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bassett, 788 Suffield Street, Agawam.

Ms. Shaw graduated from Northampton High School and Fitchburg State College with a degree in human services. She was employed by Family Planning Council of Western Mass. as a counselor.

Bassett graduated from Agawam High School and from the University of Massachusetts with a degree in mechanical engineering. He is a wind systems test engineer with Rockwell International in Golden, Colorado.

A May wedding is planned.

Reception Set For Local Author

A reception for author Edith LaFrancis and a sale of her new book entitled *Agawam, Massachusetts, A Town History* will be held on Sunday, January 18th at the Agawam Public Library on Cooper Street.

Mrs. LaFrancis will be on hand during the hours of 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. to autograph books purchased. The price of \$13.13 includes sales tax. Refreshments will be served by the Agawam Historical Association.

Edith LaFrancis is a staunch New Englander with a love for the region's hills and valleys, the people and the changing seasons. She grew up on a small Main Street farm which had been in the family since the Civil War and where during her childhood, her parents, grandparents, two sisters and an occasional hired farmhand made up the household.

It was a mile walk to Agawam Center school which she attended for the usual nine years, going on to graduate from Technical High School in Springfield in 1923.

At Westfield Teachers College, she completed half the course and then branched out in a variety of activities until marriage started her on a career as homemaker. She managed to find time for writing and the study of art while caring for her family: husband, son and daughter. She now has six grandchildren.

Many pen and ink illustrations and photos from her collection have been used along with her writing in such publications as *New England Galaxy*, *New England Homestead*, *Science of the Mind*, *Tobacco Journal*, *Yankee*, *Good Old Days*, the Tower Press craft magazines, and newspapers.

Her interest in history began with her father, Charles W. Hull Jr., who, in addition to farming, carried on a lumber business and held various town offices including selectman and assessor and as a hobby collected a variety of things: history, antiques, minerals, and Indian relics. He was a familiar figure seen walking slowly along the fields looking for arrowheads.

After his death, the author took over as history-keeper and continued where he left off, with articles and pictures for *The Agawam Independent*.

Publication of this book means completion of a project not only of her own, but also her father's.

III National Bank Promotes Several

C. D. Harrington, Jr., president of Third National Bank of Hampden County, announced several promotions recently.

David J. Fleming, who has been associated with the bank since 1963, was promoted to vice president. He received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Notre Dame and has advanced degrees in banking from the University of Chicago's School of Banking and Williams College School of Banking. He and his family reside in Longmeadow.

Robert D. Stinson, a resident of Easthampton, was also promoted to vice president. He holds a bachelor of science degree in accounting from Kentucky University and has been with the bank since 1979.

Edward H. Faber, a graduate of Western New England College with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, was promoted to vice president. He has been with the bank since 1965 and resides with his wife in East Longmeadow.

Jerome E. Parham has been promoted to assistant vice president. With the bank since 1978, he attended Knoxville College in Chattanooga earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration. He and his family reside in Springfield.

Henry R. Cunningham was also promoted to assistant vice president, having been with the bank since 1966. He attended American International College and Holyoke Community College. He and his wife reside in Westfield where he is active in many civic groups.

Joseph T. Alouise, a graduate of Trinidad State College in Colorado with an associate degree in liberal arts, has been promoted to assistant vice president. He joined the bank in 1972 and resides with his family in Westfield where he is chairman of the Community Development Commission.

Paul R. Riemer, who has been with the bank since 1977, was also promoted to assistant vice president and his duties include managing the Branch Administration Division of the bank. He attended LaSalle College in Philadelphia and graduated with a BS in administrative sciences from Central Connecticut State College. He and his wife reside in Wilbraham.

Mrs. Jeannine Pelchat, an AIC graduate with a BS in accounting, joined the bank in 1973 and has also been promoted to assistant vice president. She resides with her family in Chicopee, where she is active as president of the Chicopee Community Center and treasurer of the Chicopee Business and Professional Women's Association.



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Turnverein To Sponsor Oldies Dances

Oldies fans will be glad to know that the Springfield Turnverein will be offering a series of oldies dances at the Club beginning January 17th. The evening will feature music from the fifties, sixties, and seventies played by disc jockey Ron Pebley from 8 P.M. until 1 A.M.. Refreshments will be available.

Tickets may be reserved by calling the Turners Club, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, at 786-0924 evenings or by contacting Howard Sawyer at 568-0364 days. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. A donation of \$2.50 per person is requested for this "Couples Night Out" activity.



"You'd think that this would be covered by Blue Cross under 'emergency room services'."

"On The Clothesline"



By Penny Stone

DICK and CAROLINE BASSETT of 786 Suffield Street were home playing cards with another couple last Saturday night when suddenly a stream of 36 friends and relatives began ringing their doorbell. They quickly realized that they had been HAD. Just four days before their 25th wedding anniversary (Jan. 7th) and they were really surprised. "And Caroline is not easy to fool," said close friend MARILYN GAYNOR, who had been planning the evening along with her husband BOB since before Thanksgiving.

Originally from New York State, the Bassetts have lived in Agawam now for about ten years and, with Mrs. B working as school bus driver and Mr. B. the reigning "King Lion" in town, they have made many friends here. And they must be good sports, too, for while they had planned on having two overnight guests, her parents, they ended up with twelve, mostly friends and family who had traveled over 200 miles from New York to be with them.

In addition to many local people, they were pleased to welcome their best man, Dick's brother BOB and his wife RUBY from New York. Of the few unable to attend, their maid of honor phoned from New York as did their son TOM, who lives in Colorado. Another son BRAD was home from the Navy for the event and third son TIM was acknowledged as "instrumental" in making arrangements and keeping it a surprise. Mrs. STELLA HUBBELL, Mrs. B.'s mom, did a great job with the New York end of the activities.

Highlight of the evening was perhaps seeing Mrs. B. in her 25-year-old wedding dress. WOW! How many of us could wear ours? Best wishes for many more years together.

Home for Christmas was THOMAS BITGOOD, son of MR. & MRS. JOHN BITGOOD of 610 Springfield Street. Tom joined the US Coast Guard seven years ago and has been stationed on Maui, Hawaii, as an electronic repairman. He was previously stationed in Samoa for three years.

Tom has earned several commendations for his work and is now receiving further training in Yorktown, Virginia. Good luck, Tom.

Tom's brother JAMES recently earned his PhD., specializing in Animal Science. Jim did his thesis on poultry genetics and has written many articles on the subject.

After graduating from Agawam High, Jim went on to UMass and then received his doctorate from the University of Minnesota. He is presently living in St. Paul with his wife Kathryn and their three children. Congratulations, Jim.

A belated Hello to LINDSAY ANN MASON, newborn daughter of KIM and DAVID MASON of 365 Springfield Street. Lindsay arrived just in time for Christmas, on December 22nd, weighing 7 lbs, 9½ oz. and measuring 22 inches from head to toe.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. FRANK LOCKE of 14 Briarcliff Drive, Feeding Hills, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. ED MASON of Norris Street, Feeding Hills. Lindsay's three-year-old brother DAVID, JR. and 5-year-old sister STEPHANIE are really enjoying this baby who arrived home the morning before Christmas and was surely the nicest gift of all Noel.

Members of the Pheasant Hill Village Social Club joined forces (voices) recently and hit a note of joy while entertaining Pheasant Hill residents. The group, organized by FRANK PARADISO, club president, went from home to home spreading good cheer and happiness. This was evident in the smiling faces and tear-filled eyes of those called upon.

The Social Club is comprised of residents of the Pheasant Hill Village and new members are being sought. The group meets every Friday evening in the recreation hall and card playing and refreshments follow each meeting. In addition to planning regular fun events, the group hopes to do some good for others as well. Just recently, they made a donation to the Toy for Joy Fund.

The other club officers include DORIS PARADISO, treasurer; JOHN SYMINGTON, vice president (recuperating in Florida); MERRILL BIGLOW, acting vice president; and MILDRED BIGLOW, secretary. Residents interested in learning more about this social group may contact ROSE MEZZETTI at 786-8512 or any of the above officers.

This fall I was lucky enough to meet a nice young Irish girl named PHILOMENIA FINNERTY, who had left her homeland to stay a while in America. Presently, she is living with friends in Agawam and was kind enough to answer some questions.

Back home, Philomenia lived with her parents, Bridget and Patrick Finnerty, on Kappagh Dr. in Singlas, Dublin, Ireland. She said she learning about America from students at Trinity College in Dublin. When I asked her how others reacted to her taking this trip to the U.S., she indicated that many Irish people are traveling abroad these days. "It's getting fairly common," she said.

Philomenia enjoys our milder climate. "It's much more rainy and damp back home," she added. She wasted no time, however, making a snowman during our first snowfall early this fall.

As for shopping, Philomenia commented on the "huge variety of items to choose from here." She also noted that foods seem to be more spicy, though she likes our foods. As far as prices go, she said that with wages about the same, the cost of goods in Ireland is much higher. Gas, for example, was selling for about \$3.00/gallon in Ireland!

As for Agawam itself, she said she finds it very relaxing to live in a suburb and that people here have been very friendly and have included her in their plans and activities. And someone very special lives in Agawam. His name is GEORGE GENDREAU of 19 Leland Avenue and just this Christmas they became engaged. They hope to be married next summer, perhaps in Ireland after George "goes home to meet her folks." Best of luck to you both.

[You are welcome to send items of social or personal interest to Penny at 72 Federal Street (786-9144) or to call 786-7747 to leave a message.]

Agawam Doctor To Speak On Artist

Agawam's Dr. Raymond Casella will visit WLDM radio on Wednesday, January 14th at 9 a.m. to talk about one of his favorite subjects - the painter J.J. LaValley.

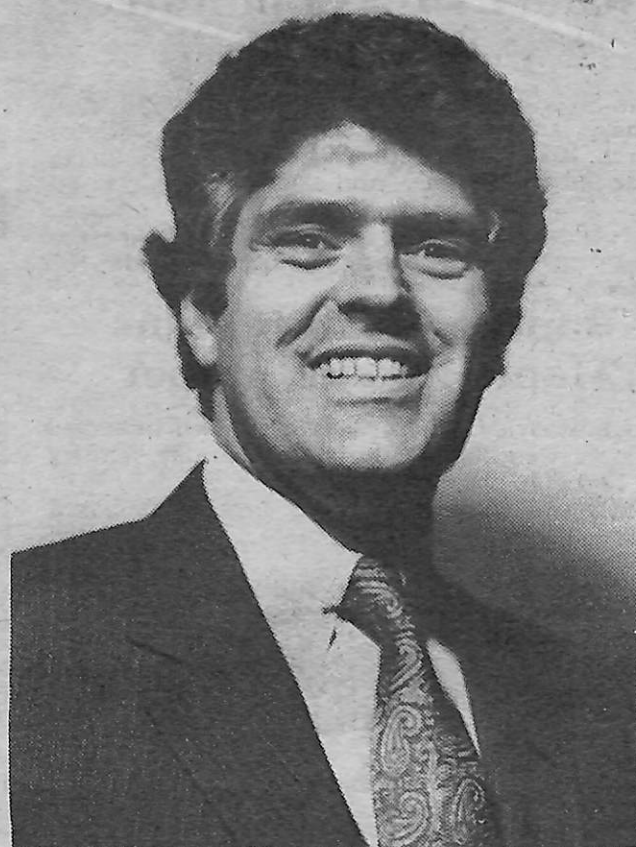
Dr. Casella, whose medical practice is on Shoemaker Lane, will be the Guest Curator for an upcoming show on LaValley at the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum in Springfield.

He has long had an interest in Jonas Joseph LaValley (1858-1930). Last spring, the amateur art historian approached Richard Muhlberger, director of the Smith Museum, with a stack of research he had done on the turn-of-the-century Springfield artist. He had traced LaValley's life as an art teacher, painter of landscapes and still life, and co-founder of the Springfield Art League.

He had also examined the development of LaValley's style, which one critic described as revealing "a tender respect for his fragile subjects, painted in shimmering colors, with gentle nuances of color and light and in quite broad technique."

Mr. Muhlberger was so impressed with Dr. Casella's research that he and curator Robert Henning decided to schedule an exhibition of the paintings of J.J. LaValley for June, 1981. As guest curator for the exhibition, Dr. Casella is searching out paintings and drawings by LaValley to supplement those at the G.W.V.S. Art Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield. He believes that a number of private collectors in the area own works of art by the distinguished Springfield artist, and he hopes that they will be willing to participate in the exhibition.

Dr. Casella will be interviewed by Cele Hahn of WLDM, which is at 1570 AM on the dial.



Anthony Grimaldi

F. H. Man Elected Officer For Community Bank

Anthony Grimaldi of Feeding Hills was elected an Assistant Treasurer at this year's annual meeting of Community Bank.

Grimaldi joined Community Bank in February, 1980, as branch manager of the bank's Feeding Hills office. Prior to that time, he had worked for 12 years in the banking/financing industry. He will continue in his role as branch manager, in addition to his new responsibilities as assistant treasurer.

A native of Feeding Hills, Grimaldi graduated from Agawam High School, studied business administration at Holyoke Community College, and has completed American Institute of Banking courses in mortgage and installment lending. He has also earned certification as a Savings Bank Life Insurance representative.

Grimaldi was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the newly formed Agawam Chamber of Commerce.

Ball Chairman Announced

John L. Negrucci, district governor of Massachusetts I of eight UNICO chapters including Agawam has appointed Louis Melchiori of West Springfield chapter to serve as chairman of the sixth annual District Governor Ball. The ball will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at the Colosseum Banquet House, West Springfield. More information will be forthcoming.

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Scholarship Committee Will Meet

The Stigmatine Scholarship Committee will meet Sunday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Church, 108 Bridge Street. The committee would like to expand membership, and all are welcome to attend.

This committee raises funds to assist financially young men who are studying for the priesthood in the Stigmatine order.

Baptist Church Plans Ham & Bean Supper

A family style Ham and Bean Supper will be served at the Agawam Baptist Church on Saturday, January 10th at 5 p.m. and at 6:15 p.m.

The menu consists of baked ham, home-baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls, assorted homemade pies, coffee and tea.

Tickets are \$3.75 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 10. Reservations may be made by calling 786-7410 or 786-8609.

Theosophical Society Plans Special Program

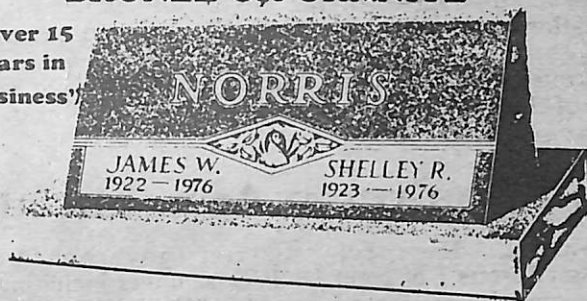
The Springfield Theosophical Society will present a special audio-visual program entitled "The Esoteric Nature of Music," produced by Jerry L. Rosser, on Sunday, January 18th at 2:30 p.m. at the Captain Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam. A donation will be requested at the door.

The show explores the nature and meaning of music and sound and the effects on music on consciousness. The producer, an associate director of the Counseling Center of the Institute for Wholistic Education in Amherst, will be present to give an introduction and to answer questions.

The Theosophical Society is a worldwide organization dedicated to the promotion of brotherhood and the encouragement of the study of comparative religion, philosophy, and science to the end that man may better understand himself and his place in the universe.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 10th
Ham & Bean Supper
Baptist Church
Main Street
Sittings: 5:00; 6:15

January 17th
'Gamblers'
Square Dance
Baptist Church
Main Street
8:00 - 11:00 p.m.

January 17th
Turnverein
Oldies Dance
176 Garden Street
8:00 - 1:00

February 7th
Basketball Parents'
Smorg & Dance
Polish-Amer. Club
8:00 - 1:00



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OBITUARIES

Mary Alajanian

Mary (DiDonato) Alajanian, 64, of 91 Garden Street, died Wednesday, December 24, 1980, after collapsing at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rosemary Sandlin, a member of the Agawam School Committee.

Born on July 30, 1916, she lived in Agawam for most of her life and had been employed for many years as a packager for Agawam Packaging Company. She was a member of St. Anthony's Women's Society of the Daughters of Columbus Lodge 44.

The daughter of Domenic and Rose (Gentile) DiDonato, Mrs. Alajanian leaves her daughter, Rosemary Sandlin of Feeding Hills, three brothers, Joseph, Dominic, and Santi DiDonato; two sisters, Mrs. Pat Moccio and Mrs. Anne Simone; and four grandchildren, George, John, Paul, and LeeAnn Sandlin.

Colonial Funeral Chapel in Agawam was in charge of services with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Lydia D. Archambault

Lydia D. (LaMontagne) Archambault, 68, of 883 Main Street died Wednesday, December 31, 1980, at home.

Born in Montreal and having lived in Springfield for many years, she had resided in Agawam for ten years and was a retired binder for H. R. Hunting Company. She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

She leaves a son, Roger, of Belchertown; a daughter, Una J. Dobek, with whom she lived; and four grandchildren.

Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home had charge of the services with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Felix Blackburn

Felix Blackburn, 91, of 56 Emerson Road died Tuesday, December 30, 1980, in a local nursing home.

He was employed for thirty years at American Bosch and retired in 1955. Originally from Germany, he lived in Agawam for sixty years and was a member of the Agawam Methodist Church and of the Bosch 25-year Club. His late wife was the former Emma Asquith.

He leaves a son, David G. of Agawam; a brother, Ernest, and sister, Olga Cesan, both of Feeding Hills, three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Curran-Jones Funeral Home handled services with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Ida Borgatti

Ida (Benazzi) Borgatti, 86, of 70 Ottawa Street, died Wednesday, December 31, 1980, in Mercy Hospital, Springfield.

Mother of retired Agawam police chief Romeo Borgatti, she was born in Italy and lived here for 84 years. She was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Church and of its Holy Rosary Society.

In addition to her son Romeo, she leaves another son, Godfrey, also of Agawam; a sister, Cecilia Raimondi of Italy; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home was in charge of services with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery, West Springfield.

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Attend Service This Week



We will be running this column weekly to inform you of the hours of services at your house of worship. Activities at your parish hall and other items of interest concerning parish doings may be submitted for publication in our social pages. We encourage parishes to appoint a person to be responsible for publicity. This information is furnished as a public service.

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Sundays: Worship 9:30 a.m.; Jr. Church, 10:00; Church School Classes, 10:30; Jr. High BYF, 7:00 p.m.; Sr. High BYF, Times To Be Announced.

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main Street, Agawam
786-7111

Rev. Floyd Bryan

Sundays: Worship 10:30 a.m.; Church School (crib-6th grade) 10:30; (7th-12th grades) 9:15; Jr. Pilgrim Fellowship, 5:30 p.m.; Sr. Pilgrim Fellowship, 6 p.m.

Wednesday evenings: Prayer group meetings 7:30

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill Street, Agawam
786-4174 (Church) 786-5278 (Parsonage)

Rev. Paul Woodbury, Jr.

Sunday: Service 9:30 a.m.; Church School, 9:30 a.m.

FEEDING HILLS BIBLE CHURCH

18 So. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills
786-1681

Rev. Richard Hoff

Sunday: Morning Service 10:30; Evening Service 7:00; Church School, 10:30

Wednesday evening: Prayer group meetings 7:00

FEEDING HILLS CONG. CHURCH

21 No. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills
786-5061

Rev. Wilbur Sadlier

Sunday: Service 10:00 a.m.; Church School 10:00 a.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH (Roman Catholic)

1059 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills
786-8200

Fr. Joseph Flood

Fr. Paul Burns

Fr. Richard Ahern

Masses: Saturdays 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.; Sundays 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH

(Rom.Cath.)

Maple Street, Agawam
786-3274

Fr. Joseph Fellin

Masses: Saturdays 4:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Sundays 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills
786-9545

Rev. Bruce Benshoff

Sundays: Services 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Church School and nursery at 10:00

Bible Study Group: Sundays at 7:00 p.m.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

(Rom.Cath.)

823 Main Street, Agawam
786-8105

Fr. Karl Huller

Fr. Philip Gallerani

Masses: Saturday 4:00 and 6:15 p.m.; Sunday 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:30, and 11:45 a.m.

ST. THERESA OF INFANT JESUS CHURCH

(Rom.Cath.)

74 Bridge Street, Agawam
786-4451

Fr. Robert Choquette

Masses: Saturday 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills
786-2445

Rev. Frank E. Dunn

Sunday services, 10 a.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m.

Contribute To The Church Of Your Choice

For Senior Citizens... New Beginnings

By Rita White



[Editor's Note: A strange title perhaps for a column geared to our "senior" citizens. But why not? It's a new column, a new year, and, hopefully, full of "new beginnings" for us all, young and old alike.]

After considering and rejecting several titles for this column, Mrs. White selected this one which eliminates generalizations and categorization of people and puts everyone in line for "new beginnings."

This column is intended to tell you about some of the activities that are available to you here in Agawam, some of the services, perhaps to deal with some of the problems you may be facing, to let you know what is going on with your friends and neighbors and families, whether you are sixty years young or older.]

It is apparent that many of you know about and take advantage of the Agawam Senior Center, judging by the number of people I see there. But perhaps there are still a number of you that don't know the center exists or what it offers.

The center is open to anyone over sixty who is a resident of Agawam. It is a place to go and meet friends, take classes in such things as ceramics, oil painting, quilting, needlepoint, woodworking, knitting, line and round dancing, beadworking, and exercise class, go on outings, see some of the local theatrical shows, enjoy parties, attend various clinics (some free and some for a nominal fee). The center is open year round, five days a week. Monday through Friday, hot meals are available for the small price of 60¢.

Beginning next week, we will be giving you advance notice of some of the center's activities and, hopefully, you will find something that catches your fancy.

Do all you Agawam residents over 60 have your ID card that enables you to discounts at many Agawam businesses? If not, stop in the Senior Center and pick up the card. It could mean some nice savings for you.

Another busy group in Agawam is the GOLDEN AGERS. Currently this private club has over 300 members and a waiting list of about 100. This group meets twice a month in the hall at the Senior Center. Again, this is a group of people who, although must be at least 65 to join, has members in their 70's, 80's and even 90's. They have parties, picnics, put on entertainment, take trips, and, in general, fill their lives with some fun times. And something nice to hear, they do their activities that mean spending money in Agawam. It is their home, and they believe in taking care of Agawam first.

Westbank Promotes Jane Knapp

Jane M. Knapp has been promoted to Personnel Officer at the Park West Bank and Trust Company, according to Theodore P. Kosior, president.

Ms. Knapp joined Westbank in 1974 as a part-time teller. In 1977, she became a management trainee and later that same year, she was made an administrative assistant in Branch Administration. In 1978, Ms. Knapp was made acting branch manager of the Feeding Hills office and named branch manager of that office in 1979.

She graduated from the MacDuffie School for Girls, Springfield, and Skidmore College. She is a member of the National Association of Bank Women, the West Springfield Jaycees and is a member of the MacDuffie Alumnae Association Board. Ms. Knapp has acted as treasurer of the American Cancer Society for the Town of Agawam. She is currently enrolled in a graduate program at Western New England College.

Ms. Knapp is a native and current resident of Westfield.

Local Woman Elected VP Of Respiratory Association

Julie S. Ely of Feeding Hills, a respiratory therapist at Baystate Medical Center, has been elected vice president of the 22,000-member American Association for Respiratory Therapy.

Mrs. Ely is director of Respiratory Therapy at the Springfield Hospital unit and was among officers elevated at the annual meeting of the association held in Dallas. She is a former president of the Massachusetts Society for Respiratory Therapy and a member of the state board of directors for the past four years. She is a member of the adjunct faculty of the respiratory therapy program at STCC.

Square Dancers To Meet

The Gamblers Square Dance Club will hold its dance Saturday, January 17th at the Agawam Baptist Church, 760 Main Street, from 8-11 p.m.

Jerry Benoit will be the caller for the evening. Mainstream plus. Refreshments will be served.

All square dancers are welcome.

If you are not a member, are 65 or older, enjoy congenial people and good times, I urge you to get on that waiting list. They will be taking in new members this year.

Again, in the next week or so, we will start giving you some advanced notice of some of the activities of the GOLDEN AGERS.

A special program in Agawam that I would like to mention is the SPECIAL CARE PROGRAM which is operated at the Agawam Senior Center. The program has been operating successfully for two years now and should be of interest to some of you.

Husbands and wives or children who are caring for an invalid or frail person 22 hours a day obviously need some relief and time for themselves. The Special Care Program provides just such an opportunity.

The Special Care Program has sufficient staff to give individual attention to every participant. Picnics, outdoor games, visits to parks and varied crafts are offered. It gives the individual a chance also to be with people his/her own age and with similar interests.

The program operates five days a week from 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon. The minimum time available is four hours, but other than that, it can be one day a week, all week, ½ day several times a week - whatever suits the needs of the family involved.

The cost of this program is minimal and wonderfully enough is not an additional burden to the taxpayer. The program pays for itself through its fees. The cost for this program is \$1.00 per hour, but in July, due to rising expenses, the cost will go to \$1.25 per hour. The hot lunch program is available for 60¢ per day also.

Many times the person who is to take part in the program is hesitant about going, but experience has shown that once involved, it is therapeutic, both physically and mentally, to participating individuals and family alike.

If you know of someone or you yourself are interested in knowing more about this program, please call the Senior Center at 786-0400, Ext. 242, or drop in and take a look for yourself.

Well, that's it for this week. We'd like to hear from you. Comments, suggestions, ideas, things you'd like to see covered, etc. Until next week, let everyday be a "new beginning" for you.

TRIBUTE

Hair of silver, hearts of gold.

Grasping life, refusing to grow old.

Living life to its fullest each day,

Giving their all, whether at work or play.

Rita White

Williamson Returns From Naval Assignment

Navy Lt. David C. Williamson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Williamson of 127 Reed Street, Agawam, has returned from assignment in the Indian Ocean, where he served as an officer aboard the guided missile carrier cruiser USS South Carolina, homebased in Norfolk, Virginia.

Williamson's ship operated along with two others as the first Atlantic Fleet carrier group to engage in a scheduled, full-scale deployment to the Indian Ocean. They participated in three major exercises, including two with the Royal Navy to practice joint naval operations and demonstrate British interest in the area.

The carrier group traveled more than 68,000 miles and conducted air operations for 183 out of 240 days.

A 1964 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1973 graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a degree in electrical engineering, Williamson joined the Navy in September, 1965.

Small Animal Hospital

Dr. James M. Martinell
Formerly Of West Springfield
Animal Hospital
Announces His Relocation To
And New Ownership Of
SOUTHWICK



ANIMAL HOSPITAL

498 College Highway
Southwick 569-3866

Hours Mon.-Sat. By Appointment



Senior Update

BY VIVIENNE BODEAU

Santa Claus had a few presents for the older citizens this year.

Beginning in January, 1981, Social Security recipients may earn \$5,500 above their Social Security income without being penalized — five hundred more than in 1980.

In 1981 a bill is slated to be passed allowing unlimited income for those seventy (70) years of age and over. This is lowering the unlimited income age by two years. However, it will probably not be law until 1982.

Congressmen were in such a hurry to get back to their homes and campaign for reelection in 1980 that they left behind a gift for air travelers. They neglected to extend the eight percent federal tax on airline tickets, so the tax reverted to five percent.

The blind will soon be allowed to retain their canes during takeoffs and landings on jetlines, ending a three-year battle with the federal bureaucracy.

Organizations for the blind have been lobbying for this and the Federal Aviation Administration has proposed a rule allowing sightless riders to keep their canes instead of turning them over to flight attendants. Our feeling is that other severely handicapped people would feel more secure if they might also be allowed this privilege with their needed equipment, when feasible and safe for all. We know those with canes will keep them safely tucked away until needed to avoid any possible problems with other passengers.

The new shared-appreciation mortgage ruling will make it a little easier to find buyers for homes now. This is the new agreement that can be arranged wherein one third of the profit made by a seller on property value increase goes to the buyer. As someone said regarding this surprisingly different contract, "Two thirds of something is better than nothing."

(c) 1981 Suburban Features

Tsongas' Rep. To Hold Open Office Hours

Senator Paul Tsongas' field representative Bill Bradley will visit four neighboring communities during the week of January 12th to discuss any problems constituents may want the Senator's help with.

Information about legislation and government programs will also be available from Bradley along with responses in a broad range of subjects. No appointment is necessary as individuals are met on a first come, first served basis.

Bradley will be at Springfield City Council Chambers in City Hall from 10 to 1 on January 12th. He'll be at the Aldermanic Chambers at Holyoke City Hall on January 13th from 10 to 1.

He'll be in the Selectmen's Conference Room at West Springfield Town Hall on January 14th from 10 to 1, and at the Aldermanic Chambers of Chicopee City Hall on January 16th from 10 to 1.

MALONE'S FARM & GARDEN CENTER

Don't forget your feathered friends!

BIRD FEED

Fertilizer-Peat Moss-Cedar Bark

Lawn Seed-Rakes-Shovels, Etc.

Lime-Sunflower Seed-Hay-Grain

Straw-Cow Manure-Dog Food

338 Silver St., Agawam

786-2246

Dr. Stephen R. Jacaprarro

1379 MAIN ST.

Near corner of
River Road and Main Street
786-8177

Evening and Saturday
Appointments Available
For Your Convenience

GENERAL DENTISTRY

- *Medicaid Patients Welcome
- *Senior Citizen Discounts Available
- *Dental Insurance Plans Accepted
- *Participating member of Dental Service of Mass.

Choose from among
several convenient
payment plans.



EDITORIAL

Expanding Tax Base Top Priority For '81

Perhaps the most glaring failure of Town Council in 1980 was their failure to develop any plan or direction for the expansion of our tax base.

Despite a good nucleus of talented individuals on the council, the nurturing of a strong business climate here remains on the backburner.

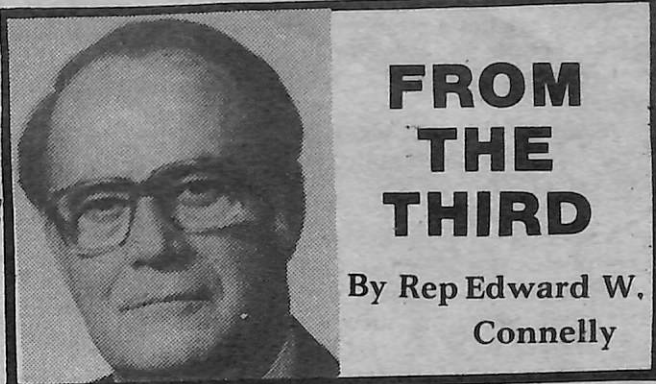
Agawam's problems are not dissimilar to what's happened to the entire Northeast in recent years: municipal contracts are out of sight causing hardships on the taxpayers; businesses have departed for the sunbelt because they feel their endeavors are jeopardized by the attitudes of local and state politicians, seemingly anti-business.

In Agawam, however, we possess plentiful amounts of industrial-zoned land and a growing population. We are still growing as are our taxes, yet we stagnate in expanding our tax base to accommodate this population growth and need for municipal services.

We have said before in this space that several large scale development proposals have been brought before the community yet were defeated...and no concrete plans or alternatives were forwarded by our town fathers.

The formation of a Chamber of Commerce and the study by the Springfield Area Development Corporation into developing the Bowles Airport property into an industrial park are encouraging signs. SADC may be the saving grace for the airport property and the Chamber of Commerce may galvanize local businessmen into a solid block to let town fathers fully understand that the backbone of any successful community is through its merchants, professionals and businessmen working with town government.

1981 leaves much room for improvement in this long neglected area.



FROM THE THIRD

By Rep Edward W.
Connelly

[Rep. Edward Connelly's column is a weekly feature of the Agawam Advertiser/News.]

On Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1981 at 11:00 A.M., the 172nd session of the House Of Representatives will convene.

In a sense, the past session failed to accomplish what some of us felt was a necessity. A clear indication that the taxpayers of Massachusetts had had enough, that the unbridled spending must stop and that a definitive move toward meaningful reform of our tax laws must occur.

Obviously, none of the above happened and the voters laid further emphasis to their feeling by instituting Proposition 2½ at the ballot box.

The message, in my view, is and must be the main concern of the new sitting. If the leadership of the 172nd session fails to address tax reform and curtailed spending on the part of state government, the effect on the cities and towns could prove disastrous. The 2½ message does not pertain only to local and county government but to state government, as well.

A significant impact has already been made on the members of the House, because their very own communities now struggle to exist under the 2½ guidelines. The leadership will be hard put to ignore the fact that the spirit of 2½ will be present in the seats of the chamber.

Hopefully, anticipated floor fights will signal a turnaround in the philosophy of our legislature toward less spending, hiring freeze, tax reform and even tax reduction. All proof that the message has been heard.

Legal Lines

By Atty. Rene Thomas

My boyfriend and I are going to get married in a few months; should we put our money in a joint bank account now?

In my opinion, it would be unwise for you to open a joint account until you are legally married. My reasons for this opinion are twofold. First, should you and your boyfriend terminate your relationship, either you or he could withdraw the total amount from the account and leave the other party with nothing. Secondly, should either of you die or become incompetent prior to marriage, the funds you deposited in the joint account would go to your boyfriend and not to your family who will be you heirs.

Many people, young and old, are blinded by love and open joint bank accounts only to find that when the love is gone, or an accident occurs, the love is gone and so, too, is their money.

Legal Notice

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will give a hearing at Administration Building, Agawam, Thursday, January 22, 1981 at 8:00 P.M. o'clock, to all parties interested in the appeal of JOHN D. HALLOCK who is seeking relief from Section 20, Paragraph 24 (b) of the Zoning Ordinances to allow the construction of an addition with less than the required rear lot setback at the premises known as 35 CARR AVENUE.

By order of the Board of Appeals,
T. A. Progulski, Chairman

Published: Jan. 8, 1981 and Jan. 15, 1981

Legal Notice

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will give a hearing at Administration Building, Agawam, Thursday, January 22, 1981 at 7:30 P.M. o'clock, to all parties interested in the appeal of FRANK A. GRASSO who is seeking a renewal of Special Permit No. 912 issued February 28, 1978 to allow the salvage and retention of junk materials in an area to the rear of 355 Main Street commonly known as the "Agawam Meadows."

By order of the Board of Appeals,
T. A. Progulski, Chairman

Published: Jan. 8, 1981 and Jan. 15, 1981

Letters to the Editor

Dept. Heads' Raises Criticized

[Editor's Note: We received a copy of this letter sent to the Town Manager and are printing it as requested.]

To The Editor:

Mr. Bowen, how can you in good conscience advocate a pay raise for 28 municipal department heads and supervisors on one hand, and on the other advise us that we will have to lose policemen, firemen, teachers, etc.? Those people will be without any salary at all! How can you justify that!

I attended your "budget meeting" and even though there were very few people, there wasn't much chance to get a word in edgewise.

In view of Mr. Moreno's remarks regarding the \$100,000 yearly surplus turned over to the Council the last several years (and I don't think he could have made that remark without proof), I can't understand a proposed 113% increase in sewer use charges and what has that got to do with water use increase of 30-50%?

You have been quoted as saying, "The town will have to make sacrifices." Well, how about about starting at the TOP. Show us (the town) a good example and maybe you'll get some cooperation.

I'm enclosing a clipping from this week's Agawam Advertiser/News [December 18, 1980] which I wish I had written as the same thing happens here and if it happens in two areas, it probably happens in many more multiplying the waste of money and man hours. Surely the supervisor of the DPW should be held accountable for this needless expenditure. Of course, we want our streets plowed, but enough is enough.

Sincerely,
Pauline Flathman

Tax Topics

By Abbett Tax Service

Inflation is causing all taxpayers to be in a higher tax bracket with no real increase in purchasing power. Since all of us are subject too the graduated tax brackets, additional pay raises are subject to the highest tax bracket of a given employee.

If an employer is interested in retaining the talent in his work force, he should consider designing a system of benefits which will give the employee additional benefits while still maintaining a deduction for the company without necessarily increasing payroll taxes. There are several types of benefits to be considered; the choice will be decided, in part, by the size, location and nature of your business.

1) Premiums paid by the employer on up to \$50,000 of group term life insurance is deductible by the employer and nontaxable to the employee.

2) Employer paid educational assistance under certain qualified programs also qualify.

3) Food and beverage expenses incurred for business meals and paid for by the employer will not be taxed to the employee.

4) Meals and lodging provided to the employee on the premises of the employer and for the employer's convenience are not taxed to the employee.

5) The employee will not be taxed on medical care expenditures incurred by the employee or his dependents provided the plan does not discriminate in favor of certain highly compensated employees.

6) Qualified employees moving expenses paid by or reimbursed by the employer will not be taxed to the employee.

Other "perks" worth considering include qualified group legal services, medical examinations, gym facility, professional and business club memberships, and spouse's death benefits.

Any of the employee benefits designed to discriminate in favor of "upper level" employees may not qualify for favorable tax treatment.

Typical Jan 1 Resolution!!

MARGULIES
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FITNESS SPA WEIGHT LOSS CENTER

IS IT EFFECTIVE?
THERE'S NO WAY
WE'RE GONNA
LET YOU WALK
OUTTA HERE
WEIGHING AS
MUCH AS WHEN
YOU CAME IN...



ENTRANCE
ONLY

EXIT
ONLY

2 1/2; Bowen Hiring - Top Stories Of 1980

The impact of Proposition 2 1/2 on local government, the hiring of Richard Bowen as the town's third municipal manager, and the controversy over the purchase of the 324-acre Bowles Airport site rate as the top political stories covered by the *Advertiser/News* in 1980.

Also making headlines were the February runoff election between veteran councilor Frederick Nardi and newcomer Joseph Rolland in Precinct One, the Grand Jury proceeding on the alleged dissemination of Councilwoman Elaine Bonavita's former arrest record by the Agawam Police Department, and the sweeping re-election of State Representative Edward W. Connelly in November.

The following is a month-by-month look at the highlights of town politics for 1980:

January

With the resignation of former manager Peter Caputo, Town Council again looked to Town Clerk Edward Caba to fill the manager's shoes until a Caputo replacement could be located.

Caba was elected unanimously by councilors as was veteran councilor Paul Fieldstad to the council presidency. Richard Theroux, after a long tenure in the chair, decided to sit around the 15-member table.

Newly-elected Councilwoman Elaine Bonavita quickly ended the brief lull in local politics with her stunning charges that Police Chief Stanley Chmielewski and department members had illegally disseminated her record of former arrests in the early 1970's.

The council, after long and bitter debate, decided not to investigate Ms. Bonavita's charges. Fieldstad told Caba to send the matter to District Attorney Matthew Ryan, who then began an intense investigation of his own.

Fieldstad appointed a five-member manager search committee to be chaired by at-large councilor Robert DeForge.

High School teacher Rudy Altobelli (D) announced he would run against State Rep. Connelly (R) in the November elections, and Connelly soon after announced he would seek his sixth term on Beacon Hill.



Nardi again was a top political figure

February

The council opened the month by refusing to fund a three-year police patrolmen's contract signed by Caputo the previous December. Union President Edward Borgatti said the pact would go to arbitration.

Kidder Stacy Company, a large Main Street-based machine outfit, told town officials that unless the town cooperated with their planned expansion, they would leave the community for more fertile ground.

Caba and his staff quickly assembled a package that would move Kidder Stacy to the 324-acre Bowles Airport property owned by the Springfield Newspapers. The town was to purchase the parcel for \$1.2 million and Kidder Stacy would serve as the anchor tenant in an industrial-airpark.

Town Council passed the proposal unanimously and then the Agawam Economic Development and Industrial Corporation was formed to oversee the industrial-airpark's progress.

On February 21 long-time political figure, Councilor Frederick Nardi, successfully defeated young Joseph Rolland in a Precinct One runoff. Rolland had tied Nardi in the regular 1979 municipal elections but was soundly beaten the second time around.

Local developer Frank Solitario announced plans to build 450 condominiums and 24 single family homes at Hubbard's Corner despite the fact he had abandoned a much larger proposal in 1979 due to neighborhood unrest. The Agawam Citizens Together committee (ACT) vowed again to fight Solitario.

March

Councilors and town officials reaffirmed their commitment to Kidder Stacy's relocation despite protests from citizens and several councilors, including Donald Rheault, but nonetheless passed the first reading of a \$1.3 million bond earmarked for the Bowles purchase, unanimously.

Caba appointed Jack Chriscola to the Liquor Commission and Solitario's condominium proposal mustered seven votes on the council floor but needed 10 to begin building. Town Prosecutor Anthony

Bonavita formally announced his bid to wrest the State Senate seat from Alan Sisitsky in the second Hampshire and Hampden District.

The Fire Department was denied some \$25,000 in overtime by the council, and Caba said he was not interested in the fulltime manager's job and would not meet the March deadline for filing an application.

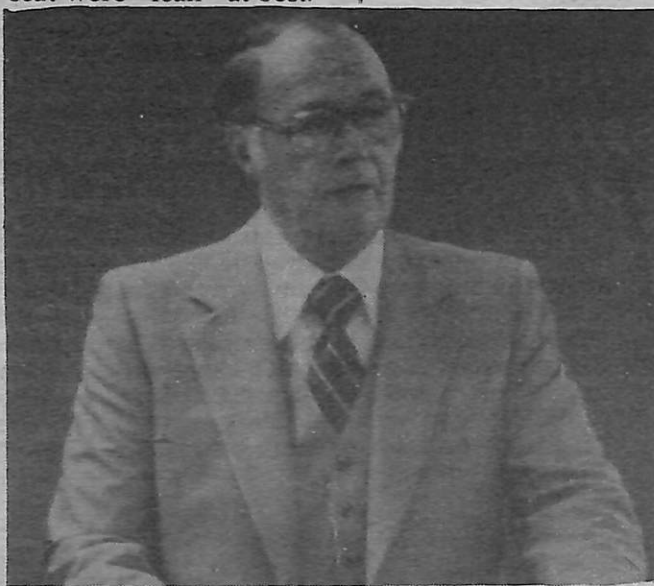
April

Town Council began the month by passing the second reading of the Bowles Airport bond, 12-1 with Councilwoman Elaine Bonavita dissenting. More stormy weather for Kidder Stacy relocation as dissent against the town purchasing the land mounted.

DA Ryan continued his probe of Ms. Bonavita's charges and dragged in many political figures from the community to the Hall of Justice for questioning.

Taxes were going up, according to Town Treasurer and Arthur Chevalier, general manager of Kidder Stacy, announced that his firm would not relocate here, but instead would go to Westfield. Chevalier said the political climate and indecision by the town to meet his April deadline were the main reasons. Those against the purchase saw Chevalier's announcement as a blessing.

Rep. Connelly said plans were underway to convert the old training school off South Westfield Street to a regional police training academy and crime lab and councilors said the 31 applications for the manager's seat were "lean" at best.



Connelly swept to his sixth term.

May

May opened with the spectacular blaze that gutted the historic Bowles grandstand, and two days later councilors were still bickering over the town's proposed purchase of the airport and voted 7-6 to reaffirm the bond.

The Route 57 extension project again hit the news with a 7-member task force being formed to break the regional deadlock on the road and the holdup of regional highway and transit funds.

The municipal budget process was far behind; Caba was back in the running for town manager as four of the seven finalists for the position failed to show for interviews; and the police patrolmen refused to march in the Memorial Day Parade to protest the council's failure to fund their contract.

June

The month opened with Curtis Olsen of Connecticut, the lone finalist for the manager's post, being axed by the council. Angry rumbles against the search committee were privately voiced by several councilors, saying that "the forces of backroom politics" were in work. Councilor Rheault attempted to initiate a council probe into the Bowles Airport affair, but was cut down on the council floor.

The School Committee and Council began bickering about the budget, and an effort to hire Caba as the fulltime manager fell to the wayside. Instead, Caba was asked to be acting manager again.

A municipal budget was passed of \$16.2 million compared to a \$15 million budget the previous year.



Ed Caba was called upon to serve as manager.

July

Councilor Theroux attempted to get a new search committee formed for the second round of manager hunting but failed. Search committee members squabbled, but the hunt went on.

More than 10 councilors and Caba vehemently criticized the School Committee and Superintendent of Schools Louis J. Hebert for a pay raise given to Hebert raising his salary to \$40,862. The Police contract finally got to the council floor following a strong push by Theroux and several councilors.

August

Councilor Nardi criticized the town's rubbish collectors, and Fieldstad announced a reorganization plan for Town Hall. The police contract passed 11-4 and Rep. Connelly was named Legislator of the Year by the Mass. Municipal Association.

Meanwhile, Route 57 reached the home front as two groups, one from Feeding Hills opposing the bypass and one led by Gerald J. Mason supporting the plan, began feuding over the controversial subject.

September

With the summer's passing, Sisitsky successfully defeated Bonavita in the September 15 Democratic primary. Mason called on the Route 57 Task Force to hold a public hearing here to air out all pros and cons on Route 57 once and for all.

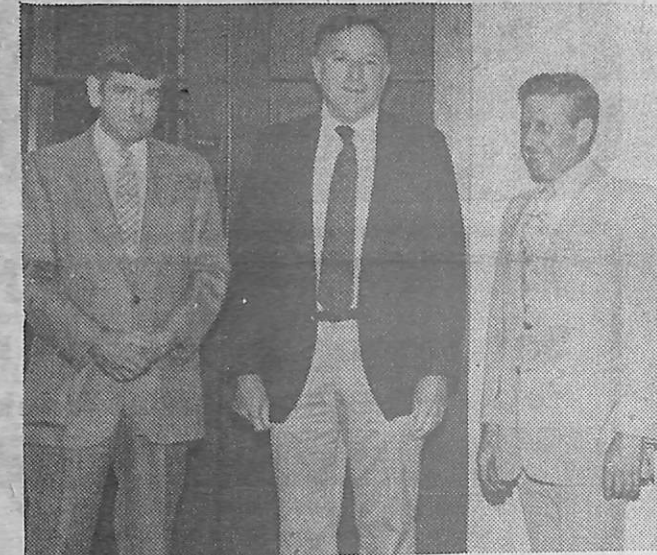
The application of Richard Bowen from Andover was named as a top contender for the manager's seat.

October

Without a doubt, October rated as a busy month of local politics. The month began with the resignation of Precinct 5 councilor Donald Laduzenski, the first ever under the present charter.

Proposition 2 1/2 and Citizens for Limited Taxation, the group pushing the tax-slashing proposal on the November 4 ballot, struck fear into every municipality throughout the Bay State.

Fieldstad's reorganization plan fell 7-6, and Bowen was sworn in as Town Manager on October 7 at Town Hall.



Richard Bowen (center) was hired as the town's third manager, Paul Fieldstad (right) was selected council president and Robert DeForge chaired the Manager Search Committee.

The three-member Liquor Commission, chaired by Joseph Dahdah, were gaining a "tough-guy" image after they closed several local liquor establishments for what commissioners said were violations of licensing laws.

Route 57 continued to boil as the School Committee voted 7-0 to support the extension. On October 22, the two groups met at the Task Force public hearing and the clear victors were the pro-Route 57 forces.

Election news: Connelly-Altobelli race, Proposition 2 1/2 and the Civil Service question for the Police Chief all were top stories as the town prepared for November 4.

November

Connelly, Proposition 2 1/2 and 'No' Civil Service for the local police chief position were all victors on November 4, with Connelly and 2 1/2 winning by big margins.

Bowen asked the council for pay hikes for 28 municipal department heads and supervisors but faced stiff opposition from the council and the vote was put off until December. The Council and School Committee planned a meeting to discuss where to go on Proposition 2 1/2.

December

December opened with the council again tabling Bowen's requested pay hikes for department heads and supervisors and Bowen's proposed water and sewer fees were also left for discussion in January.

The town established a tax rate for the year, \$6.50 per \$1,000, a \$2.50 increase over the previous year.

The council held its workshop with the School Committee on December 8 with most councilors being unimpressed with the two-hour meeting.

The Route 57 task force voted 5-2 to continue with the road and will send that recommendation to the Metropolitan Planning Organization, comprised of local and state agencies.

SCHOOL NEWS

School Lunch Menu

Monday, Jan. 12: Orange juice, pizza w/cheese topping, tossed garden salad w/spinach greens, chilled pears in syrup, milk
Tuesday, Jan. 13: Meat cubes in gravy on whipped potatoes, buttered wax beans, whole wheat bread and butter, wacky cake w/icing, milk
Wednesday, Jan. 14: Vegetable beef soup, white meat turkey sandwich in roll, oven french fries, chocolate pudding w/topping, milk
Thursday, Jan. 15: NO SCHOOL - MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
Friday, Jan. 16: NO SCHOOL

AHS Competes On As Schools Match Wits

Representatives of Agawam High School will begin competition on television Channel 22's award-winning question and answer show *As Schools Match Wits* this Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m.

According to Agawam High English teacher Lawrence O'Brien, coach of the competing squad, the team goes against representatives of Loomis-Chafee Academy from Connecticut.

Members of this year's team are Todd Rovelli, captain, Robert Lancour, Mark Morrison, and Timothy Ryan. Alternates are Roger Olewinski and Dale Patnaude.

Good luck, boys; we're all looking forward to success equal to last year's!



Guidance Bulletin Board

by Paul Cavallo,
Director of Guidance

According to Agawam Middle School guidance counselors Helen Cosgriff and Dave D'Antonio, Police Officer Skip Rising is working to acquaint students at their school with the career opportunities in police work. He is also informing students about their responsibilities as concerned citizens in aiding law enforcement.

Officer Rising was educated in our local schools and was in business in this community prior to joining the Agawam Police Department. Having worked in the ambulance service, on regular patrol, as a detective, and now in Crime Prevention, his experiences have given him extensive knowledge of the many facets of police work.

Students at the Middle School viewed a film entitled *What is a Cop?* Following the film presentation, Officer Rising visited each classroom and told the students about the police department. He said that the low crime rate in Agawam can be attributed to the fact that citizens watch for suspicious persons and activities and report any observations to the police immediately.

Students learned how to give accurate information to the police. These crime prevention techniques practiced by concerned citizens of Agawam are a vital part of an effective crime prevention program, according to Officer Rising.

A few reminders concerning financial aid are noteworthy.

1) Be sure you have all information required to fill out the FAF; it should be completed and ready to mail after January 1st.

2) January: Mail the FAF according to instructions on the form. Be sure to check the appropriate box on the FAF so that your form will also go to the Basic Grant program.

3) February: Most college admissions and financial aid application deadlines are in February. Make those deadlines.

4) March: March 1st is the deadline for new applicants for the Massachusetts State Scholarship; applicants can use the FAF to apply for that scholarship.

5) April: April 1st is the deadline for re-applicants for the MSS. Contact a local bank or credit union to apply for a HELP loan if such aid is needed. College acceptances and offers of financial aid will begin to come in. Evaluate the offers and request a review from the college financial aid office if the offer of aid does not meet needs or if there is any question about the aid offer.

Any Massachusetts students seeking financial aid information can also call the Education Information Center's Financial Aid Hotline tollfree at 1-800-882-2037.

Laughing Brook Offers Three Programs

Massachusetts Audubon Society's Laughing Brook Education Center in Hampden is offering three programs open to the public on Thursday, January 15th from 10 a.m. to noon.

The adult program is a workshop titled "Cooking With Herbs" with leader Mary Dupuis of West Springfield. Every day dishes and canned foods can be embellished with a variety of tasty and inexpensive herbs. The program includes many samples and take-home recipes.

Two children's programs held at the same time include Winter Storytime for children aged 4-6 and Winter Fun for children aged 7-10.

The stories are read by teacher Betty Phillips and will include live animals in the presentation. The children will meet in the Storyteller's House, where author Thornton W. Burgess lived.

Winter Fun takes students into the woods to discover animal tracks, snow games, hibernating insects and more. Leader Anne Groth from Wilbraham has developed this and past programs.

All of these programs are open to the public with fees charged. Space is limited and reservations are necessary in advance. For more information, call Laughing Brook any day at 566-8034.

AID FOR ADE — Like tangy lemonade year round? Make a low cal version and keep it refrigerated. Blend unsweetened apple juice and water, half and half, and add the juice of two lemons to two quarts. No need for sugar.

JOB RIGHTS ... for women are clearly spelled out in a new booklet from the U.S. Department of Labor. Titled, aptly, "Job Rights," it's obtainable by sending \$1.60, check or money order, for No. 119H to: Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81009.



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Phelps PTO Slates Meeting

Dr. Martin J. Markey is slated to be guest speaker for Phelps School PTO on Wednesday, January 14th at 7:30 p.m. A certified Parent Effectiveness Training instructor, Dr. Markey will speak on this topic with reference to Dr. Thomas Gordon's book on the subject.

Parents are urged to attend this beneficial presentation.

Children's Center Was Host To Santa

The children attending Pioneer Valley Children's Center in Agawam had a pleasant surprise visit from Santa Claus in pre-Christmas festivities held at the school.

Santa took each child up on his lap as he distributed gifts from his bag of goodies along with Christmas treats. The children in turn asked Santa to deliver cards they had made for children at the Shriners' hospital, a task which Santa assured the local kids would be accomplished.



"I was going to take Mom to a movie for her birthday. But, there aren't any PG movies playing, anywhere."

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SPORTS

Pucksters Fly High In 10-2 Win

By Steve Berard

Agawam's varsity boys hockey team hasn't let their heartbreaking 2-1 loss to Classical slow them down. Instead, they are doing what they have to do - winning games, and winning them convincingly. In their last two contests against Westfield and Chicopee, Agawam's offense has stockpiled 17 goals, while the "D" has only allowed 4.

A jubilant Coach Bill Sapelli is pleased with what he has seen on the ice from his team, and can find few flaws in their overall play. Sapelli is especially proud of the squad's scoring ratio. At present, goals scored against Agawam average less than 3 per game, while their offense averages nearly 7 tallies per contest. "We have outshot our opponents in every game," says Sapelli.

In action Tuesday night, at the Coliseum in West Springfield, the Brownies faced the Pacers of Chicopee in what turned out to be a laugher. After a close first period, Agawam came back and humiliated the Pacers, 10-2.

The first period began with a tripping penalty against Chicopee. With sharp passing, the Brownies made their first power play click. Captain Jimmy Shea opened the scoring with a low wrist shot which squeezed by the Chicopee netminder, giving Agawam the early lead.

Pat Sullivan, (Agawam's version of Terry O'Reilly) labelled a crushing check on a Pacer forward and was penalized for boarding. Chicopee connected on this power play to even the score at one apiece.

Sophomore sensation Mike Lazzazarra aided the Brownie cause with a 15 foot slapshot which caught the upper net, giving the locals a 2-1 advantage. The Pacers quickly scored the equalizer when the puck took a funny bounce in front of the goal crease and was flipped past goaltender John Kunasek.

From the opening face off of the second stanza it was all Agawam, scoring the contest's remaining 8 goals. Steve Moreau, "Eggy" Eggleston, Mike Lazzazarra, and Jerry Ferendino all tallied for the townies in the second period. Goaltender John Kunasek played admirably, stopping numerous shots labeled for the net.

The third period was more of the same as Agawam's domination accounted for more goals by Ferendino, Eggleston, Shea, and Masi. Senior defenseman Pete Spaulding also turned in a fine performance with 3 assists.

A major surprise this season is the scoring production from the Masi, Lazzazarra, Eggleston line. Sophomores, "Laz" and "Eggy", are being set up well by hustling senior, Jeff Masi. "Masi is a bull in the corners. You can't stop him. He has a great attitude and is a very coachable kid," praises Sapelli about "Sluggo", who shares team scoring honors with Jimmy Shea.

Another factor for Agawam's success is the trio of Sibilia, Sullivan, and Ferendino, who comprise the best penalty killing line in the league.

"These guys are underrated because they don't score much, but they have killed 14 out of 15 penalties, which is outstanding," boasts Sapelli.

The Brownies, now 4-2, are gearing for rematches against Cathedral and Classical, hoping to avenge both one goal losses. Agawam, however, does not want to overlook the powerful West Side squad, whom they will face this Thursday in the match of traditional rivals.

Short Takes

Do you ever feel that life is a skateboard that has just gone around a corner without you?

The only person who can look you straight in the eye and mean it is an ophthalmologist.

The newest wrinkle in autos, grumps the boss, is generally in the family car's tenders when his wife is driving.

Fairy tales for grownups: Garden catalogs.

How come the energy people haven't explored the potential of the office party punch as a fuel source?

Agawam High School Gymnastic Team



From left to right are: back row-Ellen Smith, Debbie Saliba, Lori Witkiewicz, Cindy Fontaine, and Jamie Settle; Front row-Assistant Coach, Janet Murray, Patrice Ross, Carmela Marzano, Anna Greguoli, Eileen Paleologopoulos, Terry Larocca, and Coach Laurine Greguoli. Photo By Jack Devine.

Brownies Strike Back 64-60

The upside-down, inside-out opening half of the boys' varsity hoop season continued as the townies upset Division II frontrunner Longmeadow 64-60 on the Lancers home court Tuesday.

Paced by Kevin Barnes' 29 points, most of which came from his power forward lanes, Lou Conte's quintet managed to hang on in the late going, a factor which has proved agonizing for the 2-4 Brownies.

The Brownies were totally dominated by what appeared to be only an adequate Minnechaug side last Friday, 63-47 at the high school gym.

Prior to that blowout, Conte's crew lost an 83-81 heartbreaker to Putnam on a remarkable halfcourt buzzer shot and were counted out by a strong Northampton club in overtime the previous Tuesday.

The play of Kevin Barnes and the emergence of junior Timmy Ayre as the squad's floor general has pleased Conte, who, despite his club's 2-4 record, maintains that with the acquisition of experience as the season progresses, his green quintet may make

a serious run at the division leaders.

"No doubt, I'm pleased with the play. Everything has gone well except that we've folded down the stretch in several games. Attribute that to inexperience," Conte said.

As expected, the Brownies have either

manhandled or slyed even with opposing squads off the iron, with Barnes, Nate Harriman, and small forward Dean Molta doing a good job with the inside game.

Perhaps the only outing the locals resembled also-rans was against

Minnechaug as the Falcons completely shut-down Agawam's tough inside attack.

"We'd just like to forget Minnechaug and remember that we can play with the best teams in the division. We proved that again when we took Longmeadow,"

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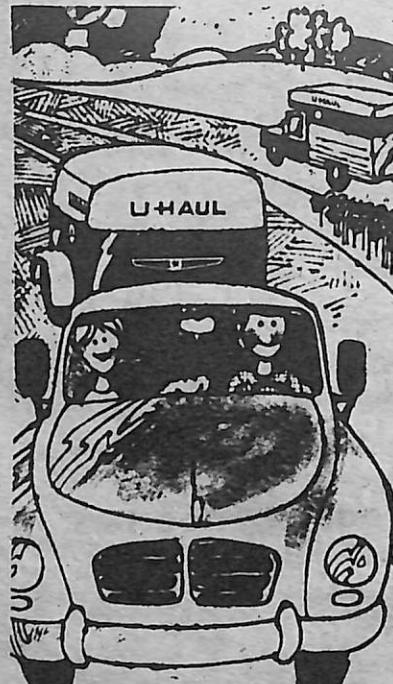
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Sportsman Corner

By Bill Chiba

I don't know how many of you have ever seen a Russian boar in the flesh, and if you have, you will agree with me that they are a mean vicious animal.

To hunt one with a rifle is quite an experience, but to do the same with a revolver and to be successful is phenomenal.

Phil and Dave Williamson, co-owners of the Agawam Gun Shop on Elm Street, Agawam, have hunted all their lives and are always looking for that added thrill. They decided along with two cronies, Jerry Mongeau of Granby and Ralph Hardaker of Holyoke, to arrange for the real thing with Bill and Marlene Richter of West Fairlee, Vermont.

Bill has created a wild preserve in the hills of West Fairlee that encompasses over 2,000 acres. The preserve is completely fenced in. Sometimes a wild boar escapes from the enclosure and the local residents end up with wild pig for a winter repast.

The four nimrods used Ruger Super Blackhawks 44 Magnums with Jerry and Ralph equipped with scopes and the father-son team just used adjustable sights.

The picturesque preserve is located in a remote section of West Fairlee, and when you open the front door of the cabin in the morning, it is a pleasant sight to see rainbow and brook trout surfacing for the small flies on the surface of the pond across the road from the cabin.

The foursome had arranged for the hunt the first week of October, 1980. The cabin was comfortable and the fishing for supper was superb.

Bill Richter placed the hunters on stands and then released his boar dogs. It wasn't long before the hounds came straight towards Jerry, and he dropped his 250 boar with a chest shot. He didn't wait for the pig to get too close. He hit it at forty yards.

An hour later, the dogs brought a nice 200-pound boar in front of Ralph, and he nailed it with one shot from the Super Blackhawk.

Dave had quite an experience. The dogs cornered the hog near his stand, and the Russian boar did a terrible job on the hounds. The pig's tusk is around three inches long and it knows how to use it. Finally, the boar afforded Dave a side shot and he hit it in a fatal area.

"Big Daddy" had to take his pig the hard way. The boar was going by at around 75 yards from Phil. After holding very carefully and squeezing ever so gently on the trigger, he hit his boar that weighed out at 250 pounds.



Dave Williamson poses with Russian boar bagged during recent hunt in West Fairlee, Vermont.

Phil gives Bill Richter and his wife Marlene kudos for planning out their hunt to the most minute degree. Because of their attention to the littlest details, the four hunters were very successful and satisfied with their Russian boar hunt with revolvers.

Basketball Parents' Schedule Dance

The Agawam High School Basketball Parents' Association announce officers for the coming year. They are President, Nancy Molta; Vice-President, Nancy Barnes; Secretary, Maureen Lyne; Treasurer, Jeanine Beaudette; and Publicity, Noel Yacteen.

An oldies dance and smorgasboard is the next planned fundraiser. It will be held Saturday, February 7, from 8:00 to 1:00 at the Polish American Club. The dance is open to the public at a cost of \$8 per person, with proceeds to benefit scholarships. For more information contact Jeannette Dore at 786-4235.



Girls Basketball Undefeated So Far

By Steve Berard

They predicted they would do well in the beginning of the season, and so far they are right.

Agawam High School's varsity girls basketball squad is 5-0 and hopes to boost their record to 7-0 after this week's games. But things are looking tough for the girls with the injury of star forward Debbie Cheetham, recently named to the All Western Mass. field hockey team. She suffered a painful dislocated shoulder during practice last week, and doctors estimate she should be out a couple of weeks.

"Without Cheetham it's going to be hard to win," surmises senior guard Laura Gendron. "She tried to play the other day, but it just hurt too bad."

In a recent game against Minnechaug, without Debbie, Agawam's girls battled back in a close come-from-behind victory. In a previous meeting when Debbie was healthy, they bested the Falcons by a wide margin.

Filling the vacant forward spot will be senior Karen Barr, who is also an experienced player having played school hoop since junior high.

Agawam's schedule is also getting tougher. "All the teams we have beaten are in B Division," advises Laura Gendron. "We will soon play stronger teams like West Side and Chicopee Comp."

Experience is a key for Agawam with four returning starters. Center Shari Balderelli is also a top scorer, along with junior forward Chris Altobelli. Laura Gendron and Michigan native Lynn Mogan are on the Brownies 'D' and have performed well in early competition.

Coach Karen Fitzgerald is preparing her team well for the upcoming tough schedule. "Mrs. Fitzgerald has been doing a great job," praises Laura.

With the quick return of Debbie Cheetham, Brownie hopes seem bright for capturing the Valley Wheel championship.

Exercises Suggested To Strengthen Back

How to avoid future backaches

Many of the backaches that plague millions every year could have been avoided. To understand how this can be, we must first understand the mechanics of the back.

Your spinal column is not a single piece but numerous pieces (vertebrae) set on top of one another in sort of an S-shaped curve, as viewed from one's side and held in place by about 140 mus-

cles. The abdominal muscles also enter into the picture because if they aren't strong enough, posture faults develop and the work they should be doing is dumped on the busy back muscles, resulting in back strain and aches. A lot of backaches can be prevented through exercise, some of which are covered here.

1. Lie on your back. Tighten buttocks and stomach muscles while pressing back against floor.

2. Do sit-ups, starting with legs flat and with someone holding ankles. As you become stronger, progressively bend the knees.

3. Lie on back with knees bent. Press back against floor as you raise head toward knees.

4. Do same as No. 3 except as you lift head, pull knees back toward head. Alternate legs.

5. Do same as No. 4 except pull both knees toward head.

From

Dr. Joseph Schlaffer
Chiropractor

8 DANGER SIGNALS of Spinal Problems

The Following Critical Symptoms Could Mean Spinal (Back) Problems:

1. Pain in shoulders or arms or hands
2. Headaches, dizziness
3. Numbness in arms or legs
4. Low back pain, hip pain
5. Pain between shoulder blades
6. Neck aches
7. Joint pain
8. Persistent fatigue

Here's how: Your spinal column (backbone) is a series of individual bones called vertebrae. It encases and protects the delicate nervous system. Falls, accidents, jolts, uneven stress or excess tension are some factors which can cause misalignment of one or more vertebrae. This can cause pinching or irritation to nerves that exit from between vertebrae and prevent normal function of the nervous system. The result? Malfunctions in the body with symptoms like those mentioned above. If you experience any of these danger signals, chiropractic may provide a natural return to health. Call for an appointment.....

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The Agawam Athletic Association in conjunction with The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department would like to have you share the A.A.A. purpose.

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